



Phoenix FireWorks

Volume 2 ♦ Number 6 ♦ July 2002

Mr. Shields Goes To Washington!

United Phoenix Fire Fighters Association, Local 493 President Billy Shields has been accumulating a lot of frequent flier miles, lately... thanks to his position as the director of the new financial services

program for the International Association of Fire Fighters!

Billy's new position has him splitting his time between Phoenix and Washington D.C. He was hand-selected for the position by IAFF President Harold Schaitberger, who asked him to put a financial corporation together that offers 457-deferred comps, 401Ks and IRA investment programs to city fire departments and individuals. It is part of the IAFF Financial Corporation, which will also offer insurance programs (term life and disability) and low-rate mortgages.

Schaitberger had specific requirements for the person who was going to put this important program together – and Billy was his first choice! “He said that

he needed someone he could trust, someone who could keep many trains on track; but most important... he needed someone who understands the needs of firefighters,” said Shields.



Financial services are expected to be available as early as next month. “Our goal is to get the 401K, insurance products and IRA rollover programs up and running in time for the IAFF convention in August,” said Shields. “After the convention, we will begin marketing the 457-deferred comp program to cities across the U.S. – including Phoenix. The IAFF program can be offered side-by-side along with companies that provide 457 programs, but it may also serve as the sole provider of 457 programs in any city.”

Visit IAFF Online or the UPFFA's website for updates on the new financial services program: www.iaff.org or www.phxff.org. ♦

TODAY

Lisa and Miguel Are “Today’s Heroes!”

Get up early and tune into NBC, beginning July 9th to catch firefighters and police officers from eight different cities competing on the “Today Show!” Among the competitors will be a team from Phoenix – including Fire Engineer Lisa Jones and Firefighter Miguel Hernandez!

The seven-week series called, “Today’s Heroes” will be a challenge between eight teams of four (two firefighters and two police officers) in feats of skill, speed, strength, wit and daring!

Lisa and Miguel will be flown to New York by NBC for their appearances on the show. Their first (and hopefully not last) appearance on the show will be **JULY 31st!** Their team will compete against the team from St. Louis. There will be three rounds of play, and the winning team will ultimately have to compete in three separate weeks. Over the course of the series, the “Today Show” will feature profiles of each of the individual team members and their relationships with their home city.

Watch the “Today Show” and cheer on Lisa & Miguel! ♦

En Español, Por Favor!

Imagine being a victim of a car accident, serious illness or house fire, and not being able to communicate with the people who are trying to help you. That’s the scenario for a third of the population in Phoenix whose primary language is Spanish. The Phoenix Fire Department is taking a dramatic step to educate firefighters on the language and culture of the city’s Hispanic community.

Beginning this month, Station #58 will become the city’s – and country’s first Spanish Immersion Fire Station! For 24 hours a day, firefighters will speak only Spanish while living and working at the station. In addition, they will delve into the culture by watching, listening and reading only Spanish-language television, radio and newspapers.

This project is a longer version of the Immersion Classes, in which students spend two weeks in Mexico, living with a family while attending 80 hours of classroom study. Participants in the Station #58 project will be required to go through an intense three-day Spanish Class and orientation. Positions will be advertised and filled by seniority.

Every firefighter who joins the program will spend four months at the station. The hope is that by the year 2012, half of the firefighters on the job will be fluent in Spanish! The program will enable firefighters to offer one more way of delivering the best possible service to our customers! ♦



IAFF Memorial Set For September 21

(Courtesy IAFF Online)

The 16th annual IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Ceremony, scheduled for Sept. 21, 2002 in Colorado Springs, is expected to be the largest in the memorial’s history.

Many of the families of IAFF members who died in the line of duty between June 2000 and June 2001 were unable to make last year’s observance due to travel limitations in the days after the September 11 terrorist attacks. As a result, many of them are expected to join the loved ones of IAFF members who were killed in the line of duty between June 2001 and June 2002 at this year’s ceremony, along with family members and friends of fallen fire fighters who attend the ceremony year after year.

Among the fallen fire fighters to be recognized in this year’s ceremony are the hundreds of members of New York City Locals 94 and 854 who were killed on Sept. 11, 2001.

“The annual IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial ceremony is an intensely personal experience for each and every family member and loved one of our fallen brothers and sisters,” said IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. “It is our mission and our duty to make sure that this ceremony is a fitting tribute to each of them, as well as their fallen heroes.”

As part of the ceremony that begins at 1 p.m. on Saturday, September 21 at Memorial Park in Colorado Springs, tentative plans call for flyovers of the memorial service by elite Air Force units, including the Thunderbirds. In addition, hundreds of honor guard members representing IAFF affiliates from across the nation are expected to participate.

General President Schaitberger stressed that the IAFF wants to make sure that the ceremony is an uplifting one for the families, friends, and loved ones that celebrates the lives, the heroism, and the accomplishments of the Union’s bravest of the brave. ♦

Who's Where

Promotions

to Firefighter Recruit

Nicole Allison
Brett Archer
Casey Beynon
Ardell Deliz
Brett Kalkbrenner
Jonathan Estrella
David Maggi
Ty Parten
David Stern
Roger Ulrich

Hired

CAP Program

as Caseworker III
Mary Jean Eggleston

Resource Management

as Secretary II
Karyn Gibson
as Intern
Matthew Flores

as Firefighter Trainees

Juston Doherty
Tyro Edwards
David Gammage
Kari Kirsling
Bobby McGinty
Brithany Oliver
Gabriel Saenz

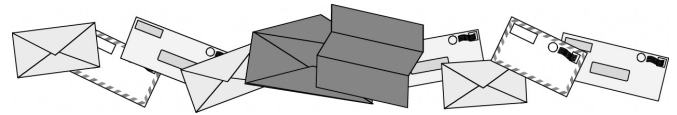
Hired

as Firefighter Recruit

Kory Bates
Sean Bogue
Matthew Caretto
Donina Carr
Holly Cecchini
Weston Crane
David Crossett
Kellie Dankulic
Chris Dermer
Paul Elledge
Michael Florio
Christopher Harman
Nicole Harrison
Kenneth Herrington
Jonathan Hill
Jason Jensen
Scott Kalkbrenner
Michael Kautz
Brian Lidington
Anthony Long
Joshua McBurney
Shawn Morrison
Christopher Peterson
Christopher Sanchez
Michael Shantz
Thomas Williams

as Firefighter

Daniel Davey
Rayne Gray
Paul Moore



Junk Your Junk Mail!

If you're tired of receiving credit card and sweepstakes offers, there's a simple way to take yourself off "The List!"

Just call the Credit Reporting Industry Pre-screening Opt Out number: 1-888-567-8688. The credit bureaus manage the number and the Federal Trade Commission mandates it.

According to the FTC, credit bureaus can release your credit information only to people with a legitimate business need, as recognized by the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA). For example, a company is allowed to get your report if you apply for credit, insurance, employment, or to rent an apartment. Lenders and insurers may use information in your credit file as a basis for sending you unsolicited offers. This is known as 'prescreening.' However, you have a right to opt out of these offers. Calling this number will allow you to do just that!

When you call, you will have the choice of stopping the junk mail offers for either two years or permanently. You will also have to give your Social Security number, but it is just to identify yourself as the person on the mailing list.

Pick up the phone and stop that junk mail today!



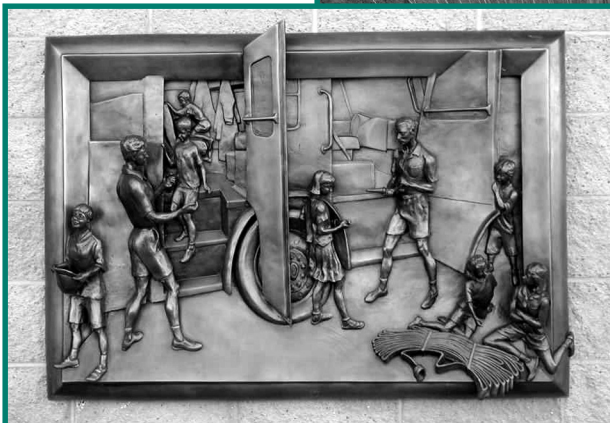
Art Comes to Station #49



Melody Peters and Kevin Osborn created two large-scale bronze relief panels: one showing firefighters battling a large urban fire and the other showing firefighters engaged in community service and interacting with children. The artists observed firefighters on the job and talked with several members of the PFD to develop the imagery which resulted in very detailed and realistic scenes.

The art project was administered by the Phoenix Arts Commission as part of the Percent for Art Ordinance, which allocates up to one percent of the city's Capital Improvement Program for public art projects. Currently, five Phoenix Fire Stations are homes to public art projects.

The panels are on permanent display at Station #49's visitors' entrance. Stop by the station at 3750 E. Dynamite Blvd. and take a look! ♦



After September 11th, the public got a renewed appreciation for the work that firefighters perform on a daily basis. Thanks to two Tucson artists, there is now a permanent tribute to firefighters on display at Phoenix Fire Station #49!

Burn Survivors Find Courage at Summer Camp!

Summer Camp means making new friends, participating in outdoor activities and creating memories that will last a lifetime. Last month, the Foundation for Burns and Trauma gave 80 burn survivors, ages 6-17 the opportunity to make some very special memories of their own... at Camp Courage!

This week-long annual summer program is one of only 20 burn camps in the country. It is a rehabilitative, safe environment where children can enjoy a week of summer camp – especially tailored for their needs. The kids who attend the camp have sustained traumatic burn injuries. The camp provides an opportunity for them to participate in normal summer-time activities among other burn survivor kids – without the teasing, name-calling and taunting they usually endure. The camp is provided free of charge by the Foundation – making it available to kids from all walks of life. The camp is staffed by volunteers, including counselors, PFD firefighters and paramedics.

This year, the camp was moved from its home at Pine Summit Camp, just outside Prescott to Chauncey Ranch in Mayer. This was due to the forest fire that hit just weeks before camp was scheduled to begin. Chauncey Ranch is an operating ranch with close to 100 horses, 50 head of cattle, goats, pigs... and enough activities to keep everyone busy! The kids participated in hiking, fishing, horseback riding, swimming, arts and crafts, campfires, and more!

One of the ways the camp was funded was through a program called, "Adopt a Camper," in which citizens and businesses can sponsor a burn survivor. If you are interested in making a tax-deductible donation for Camp Courage, you can call the Foundation for Burns and Trauma at 602-230-2041. ♦



*photos by
**Jack Jordan &
Ryan Peacock***



Wassssup?



Who is your favorite
LOCAL television or radio
personality?



Elva Gronosky: Who else? Brad Perry!

Mark Angle: Dewey Hopper!

Kyle Stoneberger: That's easy, Illona Carson. That's why she is on "FOX" "10".

Michelle Mirabito: BRAD PERRY all the way!!!! (Channel 3) - Radio, Tim & Mark KDKB!!!

Bob Michie: Hands down... Liz Habib Channel 3 - 10:00 O'clock News. What a looker!!!!

Carlos Cobos: Bob Barker of the "Price is Right" for his longevity, and radio would be Camelback Jack of KOOL-FM.

Sheila Fields: Sean McLaughlin!

Felicia Austin: Claressa Jenkins on Power92. I just love those phone tapes!

Jeff Griffin: ABC 15's Robin Sewell. KTAR 620's Greg Shulte - voice of the World Champion Diamondbacks!

Linda Kirby: By far, my favorite radio/TV personality is Pat McMahon. He is one of the most talented individuals this Valley has ever had. He spans all broadcast mediums...radio and TV. For those of us who grew up watching "The Wallace and Ladmo Show," the characters portrayed by McMahon are a vivid part of our memories...who could forget Gerald, Aunt Maude and (my favorite...Boffo the depressed clown)?!

John Dean: I can't believe you even asked this question. "LADMO" is by far the best locally or nationally. Hub Cap and the Wheels may be a close second.

George Velasco: Todd Walsh!

Rollie Diehl: Tara Hitchcock or Beverly Kidd.

Steve Jasso, Bryan Machol, Bob Ketterer: We're giving our enthusiastic thumbs up for Rich Bauer as local television personality of the year!

Bryant Johnston: Without a doubt that would be Captain Chris Ketterer. His ability to convey a story so anyone can understand what happened is unmatched. He does this with such charisma and charm that the viewing audience is usually in awe. And his devastatingly good looks make all the girls wish they could just have one chance to meet him. And I understand he is quite the athlete. (ooooooooh!)

Kathy Guzman: First it would be Bob Khan (aka: wwbkd - What Would Bob Khan Do). My second choice would be Gil Tyree - he has so much enthusiasm and energy for sports.

John Wiggins: Bobby Khan! Is there anyone else?!!!!

Jeanine L'Ecuyer: Well, there's only one answer to that... Phoenix Fire Department Assistant Chief Bob Khan!

Lloyd Randall: Assistant Chief Bob Khan!

Nick Brunacini: Without a doubt, it has to be Bob Kan. He makes the absolute best use of his hands when he is on camera.

MCTs for the Future!

by Captain Leif Anderson

How many times have you heard the following statement: "In today's hectic marketplace, a computer purchased today will be obsolete tomorrow." This common statement is used to describe the rapid changes in computer technology, specifically a computer's speed, memory, storage space, and fun features (e.g., larger monitors, backlit keyboards, etc.). The goal of Technical Services is to give our members the fastest, most capable, and most durable computers available. To achieve this goal, the Phoenix Fire Department needs to frequently revisit the choices available.

Over the next few months, Technical Services will be performing a prospective study to evaluate several different mobile computers, and we need your help, support, and input. We're working closely with the RBO Development & Research subcommittee to place "test" mobile computers at several locations within our work environment (i.e., engine companies, ladder companies, and rescue companies). The test computers will be rotated to allow companies to experience several different models for evaluation. Our



members therefore will be evaluating and selecting the mobile computer they prefer based on several criteria, including but not limited to ergonomics, durability, ease of use, etc. Although these test computers

may look different, rest assured that they will function identically to our current computers. If you have any questions or comments please e-mail us at Newmdts.fire or via the internet at newmdts@phoenix.gov. ♦

Phoenix Fire Department

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FireWorks is published by the Public Information Section of Phoenix Fire Department's Community Affairs Division. Reprints from this issue are permissible without prior permission, provided the author and "FireWorks" are credited. Copies of any reprint must be forwarded to "FireWorks Executive Editor," 150 S. 12th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85034.

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Water Safety Task Force Comes to PFD!

After a brief presentation from Assistant Chief Bob Khan to the Public Safety Subcommittee, the Phoenix City Council voted to approve the creation of a new Water Safety Task Force on Tuesday, June 11th.

The Task Force was the idea of

Phoenix Vice Mayor Claude Mattox, whose council district includes the Maryvale area (the community with the highest rate of drowning incidents in the State).

The Water Safety Task Force will include representatives of Phoenix Fire, Police, Neighborhood Services, Development Services and Parks & Recreation. The goal of the program is to allow citizens to easily and effectively access drowning prevention information and resources. One of the elements of the Task Force is a Water Safety Hotline that will be operated out of Phoenix Fire Department's Regional Dispatch Center. The number, **602-495-5555** will be staffed with fire department personnel who can answer questions about water safety programs and resources.

The goal of the Water Safety Task Force is to address the critical issue of drowning. The Phoenix Fire Department responded to 104 drowning incidents in 2001, and is on the road to equal or surpass that number in 2002. This Task Force is hoping to put a halt to drowning incidents by making vital information available to all of the PFD's customers! ♦



Visit Phoenix Fire Department's Official Website at <http://www.phoenix.gov/FIRE>

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